

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

- [c1] (Currently Amended) A thermally stable, substantially water-free well fluid comprising:  
a polymer;  
a glycol compound comprising at least one selected from diethylene glycol methylether, diethylene glycol ethylether, triethylene glycol methylether, and triethylene glycol ethylether; and  
a salt.
- [c2] (Cancelled).
- [c3] (Currently Amended) The well fluid of claim 1, wherein the polymer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethyl cellulose, derivatized cellulose, starch, derivatized starch, whelan gum, whelan gum derivatives, scleroglucan, scleroglucan derivatives, guar gum, guar derivatives, xanthan gum and xanthan gum derivatives.[[.]]
- [c4] (Original) The well fluid of claim 1, wherein the polymer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene glycol), poly(diallyl amine), poly(acrylamide), poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), poly(acrylonitrile), poly(vinyl acetate), poly(vinyl alcohol), poly(vinyl amine), poly(vinyl sulfonate), poly(styryl sulfonate), poly(acrylate), poly(methyl acrylate), poly(methacrylate), poly(methyl methacrylate), poly(vinylpyrrolidone), poly(vinyl lactam), co-, ter-, and quater-polymers of the following co-monomers: ethylene, butadiene, isoprene, styrene, divinylbenzene, divinyl amine, 1,4-pentadiene-3-one (divinyl ketone), 1,6-heptadiene-4-one (diallyl ketone), diallyl amine, ethylene glycol, acrylamide, poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), acrylonitrile, vinyl acetate, vinyl alcohol, vinyl amine, vinyl sulfonate, styryl sulfonate, acrylate, methyl acrylate, methacrylate, methyl methacrylate, vinylpyrrolidone, and vinyl lactam.

- [c5] (Currently Amended) The well fluid of claim 1, wherein the salt comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of KCl, ZnCl<sub>2</sub>, CaBr<sub>2</sub>, [[and]] ZnBr<sub>2</sub>, NaCl, CaCl<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, MgCl<sub>2</sub>, NaBr, and Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.
- [c6] (Currently Amended) A thermally stable, substantially water-free well fluid comprising:  
a polymer;  
~~a diol compound~~ an alcohol compound comprising at least one selected from glycerol-1,3-diglycerolate, glycerioethoxylate, 1,6-hexandiol, and 1,2-cyclohexandiol; and  
a salt.
- [c7] (Cancelled).
- [c8] (Original) The well fluid of claim 6, wherein the polymer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethyl cellulose, derivatized cellulose, starch, derivatized starch, whelan gum, whelan gum derivatives, scleroglucan, scleroglucan derivatives, guar gum, guar derivatives, xanthan gum and xanthan gum derivatives.
- [c9] (Original) The well fluid of claim 6, wherein the polymer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene glycol), poly(diallyl amine), poly(acrylamide), poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), poly(acrylonitrile), poly(vinyl acetate), poly(vinyl alcohol), poly(vinyl amine), poly(vinyl sulfonate), poly(styryl sulfonate), poly(acrylate), poly(methyl acrylate), poly(methacrylate), poly(methyl methacrylate), poly(vinylpyrrolidone), poly(vinyl lactam), co-, ter-, and quater-polymers of the following co-monomers: ethylene, butadiene, isoprene, styrene, divinylbenzene, divinyl amine, 1,4-pentadiene-3-one (divinyl ketone), 1,6-heptadiene-4-one (diallyl ketone), diallyl amine, ethylene glycol, acrylamide, poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), acrylonitrile, vinyl acetate, vinyl alcohol, vinyl amine, vinyl sulfonate, styryl sulfonate, acrylate, methyl acrylate, methacrylate, methyl methacrylate, vinylpyrrolidone, and vinyl lactam.
- [c10] (Currently Amended) The well fluid of claim 6, wherein the salt comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of KCl, ZnCl<sub>2</sub>, CaBr<sub>2</sub>,[[and]] ZnBr<sub>2</sub>, NaCl, CaCl<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, MgCl<sub>2</sub>, NaBr, and Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.

- [c11] (Currently Amended) A method of treating a well comprising:  
injecting a thermally stable, substantially water-free well-treating fluid into the well,  
wherein the well-treating fluid comprises a polymer, a glycol compound  
comprising at least one selected from diethylene glycol methylether, diethylene  
glycol ethylether, triethylene glycol methylether, and triethylene glycol  
ethylether, and a salt,
- [c12] (Cancelled).
- [c13] (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the polymer comprises at least  
one selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethyl cellulose, derivatized cellulose,  
starch, derivatized starch, whelan gum, whelan gum derivatives, scleroglucan,  
scleroglucan derivatives, guar gum, guar derivatives, xanthan gum and xanthan gum  
derivatives. ~~The method of claim 11, wherein the polymer comprises at least one selected  
from the group consisting of poly(ethylene glycol), poly(diallyl amine),  
poly(acrylamide), poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), poly(acrylonitrile), poly(vinyl  
acetate), poly(vinyl alcohol), poly(vinyl amine), poly(vinyl sulfonate), poly(styryl  
sulfonate), poly(acrylate), poly(methyl acrylate), poly(methacrylate), poly(methyl  
methacrylate), poly(vinylpyrrolidone), poly(vinyl lactam), co-, ter-, and quater polymers  
of the following co-monomers: ethylene, butadiene, isoprene, styrene, divinylbenzene,  
divinyl amine, 1,4 pentadiene 3 one (divinyl ketone), 1,6 heptadiene 4 one (diallyl  
ketone), diallyl amine, ethylene glycol, acrylamide, poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate),  
acrylonitrile, vinyl acetate, vinyl alcohol, vinyl amine, vinyl sulfonate, styryl-sulfonate,  
acrylate, methyl acrylate, methacrylate, methyl methacrylate, vinylpyrrolidone, and vinyl  
lactam.~~
- [c14] (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the salt comprises at least one  
selected from the group consisting of KCl, ZnCl<sub>2</sub>, CaBr<sub>2</sub>, ~~[[and]]~~ ZnBr<sub>2</sub>, NaCl, CaCl<sub>2</sub>,  
NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, MgCl<sub>2</sub>, NaBr, and Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.
- [c15] (Currently Amended) A method of treating a well comprising:

injecting a thermally stable, substantially water-free well-treating fluid into the well, wherein the well-treating fluid comprises a polymer, ~~a diol compound~~ an alcohol compound comprising at least one selected from glycerol-1,3-diglycerolate, glycerioethoxylate, 1,6-hexandiol, and 1,2-cyclohexandiol, and a salt.

[c16] (Cancelled).

[c17] (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the polymer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethyl cellulose, derivatized cellulose, starch, derivatized starch, whelan gum, whelan gum derivatives, scleroglucan, scleroglucan derivatives, guar gum, guar derivatives, xanthan gum and xanthan gum derivatives.

[c18] (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the polymer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene glycol), poly(diallyl amine), poly(acrylamide), poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), poly(acrylonitrile), poly(vinyl acetate), poly(vinyl alcohol), poly(vinyl amine), poly(vinyl sulfonate), poly(styryl sulfonate), poly(acrylate), poly(methyl acrylate), poly(methacrylate), poly(methyl methacrylate), poly(vinylpyrrolidone), poly(vinyl lactam), co-, ter-, and quater-polymers of the following co-monomers: ethylene, butadiene, isoprene, styrene, divinylbenzene, divinyl amine, 1,4-pentadiene-3-one (divinyl ketone), 1,6-heptadiene-4-one (diallyl ketone), diallyl amine, ethylene glycol, acrylamide, poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), acrylonitrile, vinyl acetate, vinyl alcohol, vinyl amine, vinyl sulfonate, styryl sulfonate, acrylate, methyl acrylate, methacrylate, methyl methacrylate, vinylpyrrolidone, and vinyl lactam.

[c19] (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the salt comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of KCl, ZnCl<sub>2</sub>, CaBr<sub>2</sub>, [[an]]d ZnBr<sub>2</sub>, NaCl, CaCl<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, MgCl<sub>2</sub>, NaBr, and Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.

[c20] (New) The method of claim 11, wherein the polymer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene glycol), poly(diallyl amine), poly(acrylamide), poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), poly(acrylonitrile), poly(vinyl acetate), poly(vinyl alcohol), poly(vinyl amine), poly(vinyl sulfonate), poly(styryl

sulfonate), poly(acrylate), poly(methyl acrylate), poly(methacrylate), poly(methyl methacrylate), poly(vinylpyrrolidone), poly(vinyl lactam), co-, ter-, and quater-polymers of the following monomers: ethylene, butadiene, isoprene, styrene, divinylbenzene, divinyl amine, 1,4-pentadiene-3-one (divinyl ketone), 1,6-heptadiene-4-one (diallyl ketone), diallyl amine, ethylene glycol, acrylamide, poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), acrylonitrile, vinyl acetate, vinyl alcohol, vinyl amine, vinyl sulfonate, styryl sulfonate, acrylate, methyl acrylate, methacrylate, methyl methacrylate, vinylpyrrolidone, and vinyl lactam.